

# THE POST-DEMOCRAT

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Muncie, Indiana, Thursday, June 2, 1927.

## Protection for All.

With "protection for all, or protection for none," as their slogan, farmers of the middlewest have served notice on the Coolidge administration that there must either be farm relief at the next session of Congress, or in the Presidential campaign of 1928 the farmers will throw their support to an effort to withdraw the enormous tariff bounties which the Steel Corporation, Mr. Mellon's aluminum trust and other giant monopolies now enjoy.

This slogan was adopted by the "Corn Belt Committee" representing farmers of the middlewest, at a conference held in Des Moines a few days ago. To overturn the administration is getting ready to make for a "compromise" on the farm relief question, the Des Moines meeting gave notice it would agree to no compromise of principle, and that legislation putting agriculture on a parity with industry must be enacted, or the administration must take the political consequences. One paragraph in the resolutions adopted by the conference declares:

"We question the sincerity and consistency of the administration which raised the tariff on pig iron one day, and the next day urged the doctrine of non-interference by government on behalf of the agricultural industry. We charge that practically every principle of government enunciated as fundamental by President Coolidge in his farm bill veto was violated by him when he raised the pig iron tariff at the demand of powerful industrial interests. The U. S. Steel Corporation produces more than half the pig-iron output of the United States. Our iron and steel exports in 1926 were 30 per cent. greater than the exports of 1925; yet the Steel Corporation admits that its export business of 1926 was done at lower prices and less profit than its domestic business, although its total profits were enormous. We seek no special favors, we demand at the hands of government the same consideration that is shown other groups, and we ask organized agriculture throughout the land to join us on the platform 'Protection for all, or protection for none.'"

## "Cold, Calculating Cowardice."

President Coolidge is severely criticized by the People's Legislative Bureau, with offices in Washington, for his refusal to heed appeals for a special session of Congress for the relief and rehabilitation of Mississippi flood victims. The People's Legislative Bureau is maintained by insurgent or progressive Republicans, most of them from the middle-west and northwest, and is regarded their spokesman. In a statement issued from the Washington headquarters, the bureau charges President Coolidge with "political cowardice" and, showing that the Federal Government can do nothing effective to alleviate the appalling suffering from the worst flood in the country's history without action by Congress, gives as reasons for his failure to call an extra session:

First—"Cold, calculating cowardice" that makes him fear that after Congress has appropriated for the relief of the flood victims, it would turn its attention to his "dictatorial dealings" with the Farm Loan Board, to his "forceful intervention" in the internal affairs of Nicaragua and to the slush fund inquiries in Illinois and Pennsylvania.

Second—"Penurious protection" of the expected \$500,000,000 Treasury surplus, which he is planning to refund to corporations and estate owners next winter, so that credit for it can be claimed in the next National election campaign. If some of this money went for flood relief and flood control, the surplus would be reduced and it would not be possible for the administration to claim credit for another big tax reduction.

Third—"That 'the calls of suffering and distress have never reached the ear or the heart of President Coolidge,' whether they came from the bankrupt farmers of the west or the flood-devastated victims of the Mississippi valley."

In short, this spokesman for the program and insurgent Republicans charged that to prevent Congress having an opportunity to inquire into Nicaraguan and other foreign relations, and to make it possible for the administration to claim political credit in the 1928 campaign for tax reduction, he is willing to postpone until next winter any opportunity to grant relief to flood sufferers, or take any steps for the prevention of another such disaster, although by next winter it will be too late to do anything to minimize the danger of another flood next year. Meanwhile, there will be untold hardship and suffering among tens of thousands of people in the Mississippi valley, who not only are now homeless and destitute, but for lack of aid will be unable to start rebuilding their homes or prepare crops to ward off penury and pestilence during the next twelve months.

## Liquor In the Melting Pot.

The editor of "The Melting Pot" department seems to be overflowing this week with love and affection for those who believe whisky has medicinal properties. If we didn't know that the old rascal who perpetrates the "Melting Pot" effusion on our readers once a week, really knows better than to include alcohol in materia medica we would take a real sharp rap at him. As it is we let 'er go through without using the deadly blue pencil.

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## Get the Importers.

Within the past week two women have been injured by automobiles driven by drunken drivers. One of the women died in the Home hospital soon after being run down. In the past murders have been committed here which have been condoned and overlooked by public officials because the murderers happened to be "in good" with the administration. We have no idea who these drunks were who killed one woman and injured another, but no political influence should shield them from arrest and prosecution. The time has come for a show down in Muncie. Those who have been permitted to flood Muncie with poison jackass whisky and denatured alcohol mixed with muriatic acid should be given a lead they will never forget. There are a half dozen booze haulers who make regular trips to Muncie. The poison they bring in causes many deaths and numerous automobile accidents. This thing of making a big fuss over the arrest of some poor devil with a half pint on his hip, and letting the real criminals go, has got to be stopped some time or other and the present time is as good as any to stop it.

## Surround Your Home With A Weedless Lawn

(By A. A. Hansen, Weed Department, Purdue Experiment Station.)

Is your front yard a beautiful, velvet lawn or a neglected, weedy patch? Judging by the number of inquiries received at Purdue for information regarding methods of driving weeds out of lawns, Indiana farmers are keenly interested in the turf that sets off their home, which is a mighty fine thing, since a weedless lawn not only adds greatly to the appearance of the home, but enhances the value of any farm in a very substantial manner. A good lawn is well worth the necessary time, trouble and expense.

But how can a decent lawn be made? The standard lawn in Indiana is made up largely of blue grass, so we will first consider blue grass turf. In the first place, every while the residual effect is exceedingly stimulating to the vegetation due to the high nitrogen content. It is readily procurable from fertilizer dealers, and is no more expensive than the average run of lawn fertilizers.

At our suggestions, Orville E. Steward, postmaster at Rossville, Indiana, scattered sulphate of ammonia on part of his lawn badly infested with buckhorn, sprinkling the material evenly over the turf by means of a can punctured with holes like a sieve. He reports that the treated area, as a result of the single application, is noticeably better than the untreated area. The farmer knows that he can not raise good crops on poor soil. The lawn is nothing in the world but a miniature single-crop farm and one of the commonest mistakes of lawn making is in attempting to grow grass on the clayey subsoil that accumulated when the foundation of the house was dug. If your lawn is built on that sort of stuff, an amount of hard work will improve the turf until a good foundation soil is first provided. Perhaps the only way out is to improve this poor soil by adding sand in case the subsoil was clayey in nature, or loam where the subsoil was sandy, and working in a liberal coating of manure to supply the necessary organic matter. Without organic matter, grass (or any other crop except weeds) simply will not thrive, which is also true of soils in need of drainage and many a lawn will never amount to much until it is tilled. Many farmers enrich their lawn soil by putting on a coating of manure each fall, which is an excellent thing to do, provided you first compost or pile the manure for at least a month in order to destroy the weed seeds and then scatter the material evenly on the turf taking particular care to break up all large lumps. It is a common error to dump huge gobs of manure on the greensward that kill the grass underneath by completely shutting out the light, thereby creating ideal entrance places for pesky weeds. The manure lump first kills the grass, then plants weed seeds in the bare spot and fertilizes the young weeds that spring up.

Another common error is to sow lawn grass seed during spring. It is far better to sow the seed during late summer or fall when young grass will be almost free from exhausting competition with the weed army, since most lawn weed seeds germinate during the spring. Furthermore, the good start secured by fall-sown grass gives it a greater advantage over weeds during the following spring, since spring-seeded lawn grass is comparatively slow to get a start. In seeding a lawn, do not make the common mistake of using too little seed. An excellent seed mixture for average Indiana conditions is made up of 3 parts of Kentucky bluegrass seed and 1 part of redbud seed, sown at the rate of not less than 1 pound to 500 square feet, when making new lawns. It is frequently better to purchase the blue grass and redbud seed separately and practice home mixing rather than depend on fancy-sounding brands of ready-mixed lawn seed that may be full of weed seeds. Only mixtures that are correctly labeled in accordance with the provisions of the Indiana seed law and that do not show a high weed-seed content, are safe to use. Most weedy lawns owe their bad start to impure seed.

The bane of many a lawn is the deep shade cast by trees and other objects. In situations so shady that blue grass will not thrive, the best grass by all odds is birdgrass, known to seedsmen as *Poa trivialis*. Birdgrass can be secured from any of the leading seedmen and it is particularly valuable north of Indianapolis, although it does not do as open, exposed situations. A peculiar green hue of many lawns, a color quite different from the blue grass, is due

largely to the abundance of birdgrass, although few people recognize the plant as anything else but blue grass. It should be seeded at the rate of about 1 pound per 200 square feet. The commonest method of dealing with plantain, buckhorn, dandelion and similar interlopers on the greensward is to dig them out with a knife or similar implement. In general, however, back-breaking work of this kind hardly pays. It is better to devote the same amount of labor to the general care of the lawn which in the long run will gradually drive out the weeds. In other words, judicious fertilization, watering, rolling, mowing and other stunts that serve to stimulate and encourage the grass will at the same time tend to crowd out the weeds. The best lawn weed eradicator in the world is a good, tight turf. An exceedingly common error, an error which I must frankly confess I have personally been guilty of, is the use of lime on the lawn. It is one of those things that sound beautiful in theory but do not work in actual practice. During the past year a large amount of experimental work has been done on golf courses and one of the outstanding results has been the remarkable increase in weeds that practically always follows the application of lime. This has been so noticeable that lime is practically taboo on nearly every golf course in the country and the same thing should hold true for the home lawn. It is noticeable that no city lawns in Indiana which have been sown for a number of years with water of high lime content, the accumulation of lime has been accompanied by a decided increase in weeds.

Proper fertilization of the lawn is a rather complex problem, but in general the best lawn fertilizers are those high in available nitrogen, such as nitrate of soda and sulphate of ammonia. In this connection we have secured some interesting results in preliminary tests conducted with sulphate of ammonia, applied evenly as a dusting at the rate of 150 to 250 pounds per acre during the morning, when the lawn is wet with dew or following rain. In order to spread it more evenly we mixed the material with equal parts of sand. Sulphate of ammonia has a burning action that destroys the broad leaves of most weeds with little harm to grass. Frequent use of weeds and contains a far better growth of grass than the untreated area. Mr. Steward considers the experiment so successful that he is now planning to finish the job on the entire lawn. Care must be exercised, however, not to apply too much of the material or the grass may also be damaged along with the weeds. If you plan on giving sulphate of ammonia a trial on your lawn, better try it in a small way first and let this experience act as a guide.

Sheep are excellent lawn mowers that turn the excess grass in to mutton and wool, while at the same time adding valuable organic matter to the turf. During the World War, President Wilson possessed a number of laborers from the White House lawn for war duty by turning in a flock of sheep and the lawn of the executive mansion was never in a better condition. One of the outstanding movements that the present generation will probably witness, is the improvement of the farm home. Running water, mechanical washers, vacuum cleaners, the radio, electric lights and a host of other modern conveniences will gradually take much of the drudgery out of farm life and with the new leisure will come time for the beautification of the home. In this great movement the development of a handsome turf to set off the home beautiful should occupy a prominent place.

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## CULT COLONY 'WORLD APART'

Woman, Ex-Member, Says King "Walled Them in With Deceit and Perjury."

St. Joseph, Mich., June 1.—Charges that Benjamin Purnell set up a temporal kingdom, "walled in with fraud, deceit and perjury," were contained in testimony of Mrs. Esther Johnson Hansel, a state witness at the dissolution proceedings against the House of David colony in court here.

Mrs. Hansel, a former member of the colony, declared the cult leader taught his followers they were part of a kingdom separate from the world. "He preached to us that the ingathering is a kingdom apart. We were depicted as members of an army ready to fight if necessary against the outside world. We were told to say that what was not the truth was the truth if our faith was attacked in court. We were exhorted before each trial of trouble."

Mrs. Hansel described the aged king as a schemer and trickster, sharp in some things but in other things a fool. "He was a fool for telling a woman all about his own alleged unlawful conduct," she added.

Mrs. Hansel testified she was a "liar and a perjurer" all the time she was a member of the House of David colony. "That was my faith," she said. The first time she told the truth publicly relative to the colony was in the Hansel trial in Grand Rapids a few years ago, she stated.

## REPRESENTATIVE SAVED BY WHISKY

Ed E. Eikenbary, of Wabash, Adds Name to Violators of Wright Dry Law.

Indianapolis, June 1.—Whisky was used to save the life of a state representative at the same time that pressure was being brought on other members of the Indiana legislature to prevent an amendment to the Wright bone dry law, it has been disclosed.

A representative who came forward with a testimonial to the value of medicinal whisky in his case is Edward E. Eikenbary, of Wabash. Eikenbary voluntarily added his name to the list of prominent persons who have been compelled to violate the Wright law to save their lives.

His statement followed the letter of Attorney-General Arthur L. Gilliom to Governor Ed Jackson, urging the chief executive to use his influence to have the law changed, and disclosing that whisky saved Mrs. Jackson's life. While the life of Eikenbary was being saved by whisky, an effort was being made to secure introduction of a bill in the state legislature which would permit doctors to prescribe whisky.

Eikenbary's illness was similar to that of the governor's wife. He was stricken while attending the 1927 legislature. For five weeks he remained at a hospital here, and during that time whisky was prescribed and illegally procured, to the use of which Eikenbary said his physicians attribute his recovery.

## FARM CONDITIONS SUFFER REVERSE

Rainfall and Floods Have Changed Aspect During Last Two Months.

Washington, June 1.—Setbacks to agriculture during the last two months have reversed completely previous prospects for an early season, the Department of Agriculture declared yesterday in its June review of the farming situation.

"Spring planting throughout the North has been delayed probably two weeks later than average," the department said. "The Mississippi flood has inundated more than three million acres of crop land in five states. The Southeast and a portion of the Southwest have suffered from drought. Eastern pastures and Western ranges alike have been slow to furnish spring feed, though the abundance of moisture promises an ample grass crop for summer."

Hogs Decline: Corn Rises. "With hog prices down around \$4 a 100 pounds below last year's prices and corn some 15 cents a bushel above, the corn belt situation has changed materially. If this sharp slump in hog prices tends to restrict breeding for fall pigs, however, it may prove a stabilizing factor in the long run. The presumption is that hog prices will make some seasonal rise during the next few months. The Mississippi flood situation is summarized mainly as affecting the production of long staple cotton. The heart of the long staple producing area is in the flooded area, embracing somewhat over 30 per cent of the long staple cotton acreage of the United States.

Male mosquitoes seem to be particularly fond of sipping wine and beer, an entomologist reports. Australia is producing a new fruit called the cucumber apple for use in salads. Although it has the appearance of an apple, the flavor is said to be distinctively that of a cucumber.

## K. C. DOCTOR AREA CHAIRMAN CHILD WELFARE WORK

Dr. L. Mason Lyons Will Have Charge of Thirteen States.

Indianapolis, Ind., June 1.—Dr. L. Mason Lyons, 326 Argyle Building, Kansas City, Mo., has been appointed by Howard P. Savage, national commander of the Legion, to be chairman of Area D in the national organization's child welfare work. Area D comprises thirteen states, as follows:

Missouri, Ohio, North Dakota, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, South Dakota, Wisconsin and Nebraska.

Dr. Lyons' area is considered one of the most important for child welfare work in the United States. Splendid progress was reported at the recent meeting of the commit-



DR. L. MASON LYONS.

tee in the Legion's campaign for improved child welfare legislation in the various states.

State Senator Sherman W. Child of Minneapolis, national vice chairman of the Child Welfare Committee, has compiled a minimum legislative program which consists of four provisions. This program is being used as a guide for the passage of laws where needed. These four minimum provisions are:

1. A good, workable desertion and non-support law which will make extradition easier.
2. A good, workable widowed mother's allowance law that will enable a mother to care for her children in their own home.
3. An unpaid county child welfare board.
4. A central state child welfare bureau.

## KLANSMEN BATTLE POLICE TO PARADE

Stones, Eggs and Fruit Hurl-ed at Robed Figured in Jamaica, N. Y.

Jamaica, N. Y., June 1.—Fifteen hundred klansmen successfully battered their way through a cordon of 110 policemen into the Queen's Memorial day parade, holding their position along a four-mile march in spite of successive attacks by police and hostile crowds.

Stones, eggs and fruit were hurled at the hooded marchers by the packed thousands along the way. The general aim was bad, however, as spectators on opposite sides of the streets and policemen bore the brunt of the barrage.

The trouble started when the klansmen appeared in their regalia prepared to march in the parade. Police Inspector Harley claimed that the klansmen had promised to march without robes or their flaming cross.

When klansmen attempted to swing into Jamaica avenue to take their place in the parade, Inspector Harley ordered his platoon of 110 men to bar the way.

The police formed a barrier across the path of the robed marchers. Without hesitation, the klansmen struck "Onward Christian Soldiers," and headed by a Baptist minister, Rev. E. A. Watkins, the klansmen forced their way through the lines of police.

The inspector had instructed his men not to use their clubs. Robes were torn. Fists thwacked and blood spattered, but there were no casualties. Like a white torrent the robed marchers poured through the collapsing line of blue coats.

## U. S. Supreme Court Upholds Truck Law

Washington, June 1.—The United States Supreme court yesterday held that the Ohio motor transportation act, requires that motor truck companies doing an interstate commerce business, as well as those operating only within the state, shall obtain a license from the Ohio public utilities commission and pay a fee. Clark and Riggs, operating a motor truck line in interstate commerce between Aurora, Ind., and Cincinnati, O., had ignored the law and sought to enjoin the state commission from interfering with its operation. The truck company claimed that, as applied to it, the state law violated the commerce clause of the Federal constitution. The Supreme court, however, held that the utilities commission's authority over the highway to all common carriers operating a state or inter-

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